

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please remove and replace the following paragraphs of the specification as indicated.

Page 5-6, Paragraph beginning line 23:

It is to be noted that, for instance, when CDMA (Code Division Multiple Access) is used for wireless transmission, as a method of estimating noise and interference power, ~~in~~ noise/interference power[,] estimation unit 103 can employ a method of despreading received signal S_r by making use of a spread code that is not used for wireless transmission so as to cancel out the signal component, to thereby extract noise and interference components alone.

Page 8, Paragraph beginning line 6:

As shown in FIG. 43, channel estimation circuit 301 according to the third embodiment of the present invention includes tentative channel estimation unit 102, noise/interference power estimation unit 303, threshold decision unit 104 and effective path detection unit 105.

Please remove the present Abstract and replace with the following paragraph:

A channel estimation circuit ~~(101)~~ of the present invention includes: a tentative channel estimation unit ~~(102)~~ for performing channel estimation by making use of a received signal and outputting the result of estimation as a tentative channel estimation signal; a noise/interference power estimation unit ~~(103)~~ for estimating noise and interference power by making use of the received signal and outputting the result of estimation as a noise/interference power estimation signal; a threshold decision unit ~~(104)~~ for establishing a threshold signal by making use of the noise/interference power estimation signal to output the threshold signal; and an effective path detection unit ~~(105)~~ for outputting, as a channel estimation signal, paths of the tentative channel estimation signal that remains after noise paths having powers smaller than the threshold signal have been removed.